

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A photographic processor comprising:
 - a first solution application station adapted to apply a first solution onto photographic media to process the photographic media;
 - a first vertical stacker arrangement adapted to receive the media from the first solution application station, wherein a travel time for the media in said first vertical stacker arrangement corresponds to a first solution processing time and drying time for the photographic media;
 - a second solution application station adapted to receive the media from the first vertical stacker arrangement and apply a second solution onto the photographic media; and
 - a second vertical stacker arrangement adapted to receive the media from the second solution application station, wherein a travel time for the media in said second vertical stacker arrangement corresponds to a second solution processing time for the photographic media.
2. A photographic processor according to claim 1, further comprising:
 - a wash station adapted to receive the media from the second vertical stacker arrangement and wash the media.
3. A photographic processor according to claim 2, wherein said first vertical stacker arrangement is adapted to receive the media after the wash station and hold the media to permit a drying of the media.
4. A photographic processor according to claim 1, wherein said first solution application station comprises:
 - a first conveying member adapted to transport the media to be processed, said first conveying member comprising a plurality of first slots and being provided on top of a first vacuum chamber;
 - a first solution supply member adapted to apply the first solution onto the media on said first conveying member to process said media; and

a first vacuum air source adapted to apply a first vacuum suction force to said first vacuum chamber, such that said first suction force passes through said first slots on said first conveying member to hold the media on said first conveying member flat.

5. A photographic processor according to claim 1, wherein said second solution application station comprises:

a second conveying member adapted to transport the media to be processed, said second conveying member comprising a plurality of second slots and being provided on top of a second vacuum chamber; and

a second solution supply member adapted to apply the second solution onto the media on said second conveying member to process said media;

wherein said first vacuum air source or a second vacuum air source is adapted to apply a second vacuum suction force to said second vacuum chamber, such that said second suction force passes through said second slots on said second conveying member to hold the media on said second conveying member flat.

6. A photographic processor according to claim 1, wherein said first solution is a developing solution which develops a latent image on said photographic media and said second solution is a bleach solution.

7. A photographic processor according to claim 1, further comprising a stop bath located between an exit from the first vertical stacker arrangement and an entrance to said second solution application station, said stop bath being adapted to apply a stop solution to said media to stop development of said media.

8. A photographic processor according to claim 1, wherein said first vertical stacker arrangement comprises a plurality of spaced first media platforms positioned in a vertical direction, each first media platform being

adapted to receive media from the first solution application station and transport the media in a first vertical direction to said second solution application station.

9. A photographic processor according to claim 2, wherein said second vertical stacker arrangement comprises a plurality of spaced second media platforms positioned in a vertical direction, each second media platform being adapted to receive media from the second solution application station and transport the media in a second vertical direction to said wash station.

10. A photographic processor according to claim 8, wherein each of said first media platforms are operationally associated with a first moving member which is adapted to move each of said first media platforms.

11. A photographic processor according to claim 10, wherein said first moving member is a first endless belt.

12. A photographic processor according to claim 9, wherein each of said second media platforms are operationally associated with a second moving member which is adapted to move each of said second media platforms.

13. A photographic processor according to claim 12, wherein said second moving member is a second endless belt.

14. A photographic processor according to claim 2, wherein said second solution application station is located above said wash station, and each of said first and second vertical stacker arrangements are parallel to each other and located on opposite sides of said second solution application station and said wash station.

15. A method of processing photographic media, the method comprising the steps of:

applying a first solution onto photographic media at a first solution application station to process the photographic media;

conveying the media having the first solution thereon to a first vertical stacker arrangement which is adapted to receive the media from the first solution application station and transport the media in a first vertical direction to a second solution application station, wherein a travel time for the media in said first vertical stacker arrangement corresponds to a first solution processing time and a drying time for the photographic media;

applying a second solution onto the photographic media at a second solution application station which is adapted to receive the media from the first vertical stacker arrangement and apply the second solution onto the photographic media to process the media; and

conveying the media having the second solution thereon to a second vertical stacker arrangement which is adapted to receive the media from the second solution application station and transport the media in a second vertical direction, wherein a travel time for the media in said second vertical stacker arrangement corresponds to a second solution processing time for the photographic media.

16. A method according to claim 15, further comprising the step of:

conveying the media from the second vertical stacker arrangement to a wash station which is adapted to wash the media.

17. A method according to claim 16, further comprising the step of:

conveying the media from the wash station back to the first vertical stacker arrangement to dry the media.

18. A method according to claim 15, wherein said step of applying a first solution onto the photographic media comprises applying a developing solution onto the media to develop a latent image on the media.

19. A method according to claim 15, wherein said step of applying a second solution onto the photographic media comprises applying a bleach solution onto the media.

20. A method according to claim 19, wherein after the media exits said first vertical stacker arrangement and prior to the transport of the media to the second solution application station, the method comprises conveying the media through a stop bath having a stop solution therein to stop a development of said media.